

McNairy County Independent.

VOLUME XIV.

SELMER, MCNAIRY COUNTY, TENN., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1916.

NUMBER 33

A number have spoken to us about a graded gravel road with toll gates from Selmer to Adamsville. It would be a self-sustaining proposition. The gravel road from Pittsburg Landing, we are informed, is a paying concern. Whether it paid or not, a good road from these points is the most important one in the county.

The democratic party will have only one candidate for president, Woodrow Wilson. He is the logical candidate, notwithstanding their platform opposed a second term. The republican candidate has not been named with any assurance. That there will be several candidates before the convention is certain. There seems to be a sentiment in Tennessee especially to have Roosevelt. It is possible that the convention will nominate him. If all parties can be centered on any one man, be it any one of the candidates suggested, there will be no friction. Otherwise there may be. But it seems all republicans are inclined to not repeat the fatal mistake of 1912.

Beginning February 29 and going on five days at Jackson, will be held a conference for good roads officials and citizens generally. On the program are men who know every feature of road building. These conferences have already been held in East and Middle Tennessee. This takes West Tennessee where the building of roads vary from that of the other divisions of the state. The State Highway Department and the University of Tennessee are the sponsors for these meetings. There will be no costs or contributions made at the meetings, and the railroads have given reduced rates. We trust our road officials will attend, as they are the people who are specially intended to be reached as well as any others.

Foot Crushed Off

Last Friday morning, while engaged in switching cars at Henderson, Dan Ramer, a brakeman on the local freight, while between the cars, had one of his feet crushed, and was taken to Jackson on No. 2 and carried to the Civil League Hospital, where it was found amputation of the injured foot was necessary. Dan is a son of the late Esq. J. S. Ramer, and was reared at Ramer and is a splendid young man. He has many relatives here and throughout the county who will regret to hear of the misfortune.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to thank our many loyal friends for the kindness shown us in the loss of our dear husband and father and for the beautiful floral offerings. We wish especially to thank Dr. Bell for his faithful service and effort to revive and restore him to us.

Sincerely,
Mrs. W. H. THOMPSON,
Miss LAYARA THOMPSON

Notice to Teachers.

Teachers' examination will be held in the High School building at Selmer on March 10 and 11, 1916.

All who took the December examination and fell below 60 on any subject may have the privilege of taking that subject again on the next examination. No one will be permitted to take the examination on any subject in March on which he made as much as 60. Those who failed to take the December examination may take it as scheduled for December and also as it is scheduled for March.

The subjects for Friday, March 10, will be spelling, reading, writing and grammar, and those for Saturday, March 11, will be geography, Tennessee and United States history.

High School examination will be conducted on the same days.

Examination for colored teachers will be held for colored teachers as scheduled above, at the colored school building in Selmer.

A. H. GRANTHAM, Co. Supt.

Read The Independent for the NEWS of the county.

NEW YORK LETTER

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:

It was my fortune, while living in Washington, to see six men who had been, or were, presidents of the United States. The first was Rutherford B. Hayes. In 1892 he marched along Pennsylvania at the Grand Army reunion, and I saw his tall, lean figure and his pale face and long beard in the procession. Soon after that he died. Then I saw President Harrison at the White House; a short, compactly built, broad-shouldered man, with bright eyes and a fresh, rosy complexion. I saw Grover Cleveland and heard his gruff voice several times. He was "gritter-faced," as we used to say; had rugged features, and there was an iron firmness about him. History will accord him a high place as a broad-minded, patriotic American. I heard William McKinley deliver his last inaugural address while I was squeezed in such a crowd in front of the capitol that my feet scarcely touched the ground. The martyred president was short and inclined to be stout, had a dark complexion, and a thin, but clear and pleasant voice. I last beheld him as his mortal remains lay in state in the rotunda of the capitol, while a steady stream of his loving countrymen paid him the silent tribute of respect. That marble brow and noble face reminded me of the picture of Daniel Webster, and was of the true American statesman type. But one cheek and the side of his neck were already blackened with approaching decomposition, and the sad services were hurried through.

The man who followed him as president is perhaps the most remarkable man ever born on this continent. There will not be room here to say much about Theodore Roosevelt, although I could say much that is interesting. At close view, he looked sort of sandy-haired, grinning and snappy; has a thin, harsh voice and quick movements, and his teeth are certainly in evidence when he talks. Those nearest to him in the White House have told me much about his kindness to them, and his wonderful memory of their individual family matters and their needs. Some day I may find time to tell some intimate stories about this great man, as told me by people who know him best.

In June, 1911, there was held at Baltimore a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the elevation of Cardinal Gibbons to the priesthood. Nearly twenty thousand people gathered in the Armory to see and hear one of the most distinguished groups of men that ever gathered on this continent. I never expect to see anything like it again. The Catholic cardinal, thin and bent, but proudly smiling, was in the center; President Taft and former President Roosevelt sat together on the platform in front; Vice-President Sherman, Speaker Champ Clark, former Speaker Joe Cannon, Chief Justice White of the Supreme Court of the United States and several of his associates, members of the Senate and House, the Governor of Maryland, Mayor of Baltimore, and Charles J. Bonaparte, a great grand nephew of Napoleon, were among the brilliant throng. Also, there was the British Ambassador, James Bryce, and other diplomats.

Although Taft and Roosevelt sat side by side (perhaps for the last time), they did not face each other while talking. It was comical to see the whites of their eyes while they turned their heads on the chair-back and looked at each other across their noses. Occasionally one of them would laugh, but mostly they were serious. I heard their speeches. Taft had a voice like a silver bell, that could be heard all over that immense gathering, and his words came out so slowly and distinctly that they could almost be written down in long-hand. Then came Roosevelt. He had a thin, cracked sort of a voice, quick gestures and, to me, rather tiresome style, and his talk was long. Perhaps the best address was that of "Sunny Jim" Sherman, Vice-President of the United States. Although the speech was brief, it was beautiful. Joe Can-

"The Bishop From Australia" IN THREE ACTS COLLEGE AUDITORIUM Friday Night, February 25 PRESENTED BY STUDENTS OF SELMER HIGH SCHOOL

Cast of Characters:

JONES—who travels for a hymn book house.....Rady McCormack
EBENEZER GOODLY—a professor of anatomy.....Mose Brooks
ANTHONY GOODLY, D.D.—Bishop of Ballarat.....Carl Ferguson
RICHARD HEATHERLY—Engaged to Marjorie.....Julian Prince
THOMAS HOLDER—a policeman.....Estill Ferguson
MRS. GOODLY—Ebenezer's wife.....Mary Ruth Ammons
CISSY—Ebenezer's ward.....Marie Robinson
MARJORIE—Ebenezer's daughter.....Grace Wood
MINERVA—Ebenezer's daughter.....Kathleen Wyatt
ALVINA STARLIGHT—Mrs. Goodly's sister.....Ruth Cox
HELMIA—Swedish servant girl.....Herbert Wood
HENRY FULLER—Superintendent Sanatorium.....Wilford Baker
WM. BICBEE—an inmate of the sanatorium.....

PLACE.....NEW YORK TIME.....PRESENT
SCENE.....SAME THROUGHOUT THE THREE ACTS

This play is too long to give a synopsis. It is a first-class comedy and brimful of action from beginning to end. There is not a dull moment in it. It plays two hours and thirty minutes and there is a laugh for every minute. Be sure to see it for you will enjoy it. No better play has been presented by local talent.

Music between acts. The Mothers' Club will sell candy between acts. All proceeds go to the concrete walk fund.

Time, 7:30 p. m.

Admission 15c and 25c

anon stepped forward with a sheet of paper from which he read a short speech, rather dry. Then, tossing the paper to one side, he said: "Now I am going to talk." And I am here to say it was a great talk. He said, among other things: "There are perhaps twenty thousand people here today. No two of them have the same idea of what God is. My God is not the same as yours; I cannot describe Him to you, and you cannot tell me what He seems to you to be. And yet we all feel that He does exist, and is as much yours as mine." Champ Clark has a big round, full voice, and a straight, pleasing way of expressing himself. He made an amusing blunder by appealing to his hearers, "both Catholics and Republicans," about something, which made the audience gasp, but he caught himself and turned it off neatly. Champ is a big man in our national life, and has grown in mental stature with his various promotions.

After the speaking was over, and the speakers had moved off to chat with each other, the crowd set up a howl for Roosevelt, and the cries of "Ah there, Teddy!" attested the affection still felt for him by thousands of admirers. Roosevelt, perhaps unconsciously, posed in the very center of the big stage, a light black coat like the toga of a Roman senator thrown over one arm, his face turned sideways and a diabolical grin (it can be described in no other way) reaching from the corner of his mouth to one eye. I never saw anything like it. His big, bull-neck upholding that heavy, square-looking head, gleaming glasses in their gold frames, the bold, almost insolent bearing of the man—all it meant, I knew—made a picture I shall never forget. And all the while his admirers, who almost worshipped him, yelling at his feet, but he said nothing; scarcely making a sign in recognition of the demonstration, except that perfectly indescribable grin, and maybe a little jerky nod of the head once in awhile. I never believed the many uncharitable tales told in the papers of Roosevelt's ambition to be emperor of the western world, but he certainly would look the part if such authority came to him. No face, even that of Lucifer (whoever that worthy may be, but we have all heard of him) or of any earthly potentate, ever looked more contemptuously proud than T. R. did on that June day in Baltimore, looking down at the cheering crowds below him. He is still one year younger than President Wilson, and no one, perhaps least of all himself, can tell what "The Only Theodore" may yet do in

politics. He has queered himself with one element by espousing the cause of Belgium against Germany, and in the state here many factions are against him, for he is too impatient of party restraint for the "regulars," and still holds to his Ball Moose ideas, which cost him so much political prestige in the last election.

I have not yet seen President Wilson, but he is a familiar figure in Washington, after taking walks, and attending base ball games, of which he is fond. He opens the season's games by tossing the first ball.

Our people have been remarkably successful in choosing presidents, always getting good men, who reflected credit on the country. None of them ever went crazy, and yet it seems a wonder, when one thinks of the multitude of things they are called upon to do, and to do it right, and how few mistakes they have made. The snow-white edifice on Pennsylvania avenue, hallowed by the memories of the long line of chief executives of our nation, bears no stain of scandal on its gleaming front, and we have the faith that it never will.

LINDSAY S. PERKINS.

Marriage Licenses.

R. A. Harris to Rena Barnes.
J. S. Grantham to Mrs. Rosa Bonason.
J. O. Gann to Bertha Phillips.
Wm. Donahoe to Eliza Tackett.
Rufus Reeder to Allean Fulghum.
Joe Lain to Julia Grantham.

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OWN YOUR CROP INSTEAD OF OWE IT

Food And Grain Crops Will Make Agricultural South Independent, Says H. G. Hastings

Atlanta, Ga.—(Special.)—The credit system under which the agricultural south works and stays poor is analyzed in a striking way by H. G. Hastings of Atlanta, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the executive council of the South-eastern Fair. He does not mince words in talking about the situation. "Every season during the last fifty years," he says, "there has been trouble in the cotton belt, whenever the crop was large and the price low, or the crop short. Each time the cry of hard times goes up, and the reason back of it is that the farmers cannot get enough money to pay their debts out of their so-called cash crop—cotton. It is disheartening because it is so absolutely unnecessary.

A cotton farmer's debts are largely for food and grain, charged up against him on the merchants' books at two to three times the price that these same items could be produced on his own acres, and usually without serious interference with a crop of cotton as large as he now makes.

"The trouble is that most cotton farmers owe their crop instead of owning it when made.

"The credit way looks the easy way, but it strangles most farmers before they get through life.

"I have said repeatedly in public addresses that no state or section of any country can be prosperous that is regularly dependent on another section for its food supplies. What is true of a state or section is true of the individual farmer.

"The great exhibits of grain, hay and food products shown at the South-eastern Fair held in Atlanta in November, give the lie to the statement that these things cannot be grown here at home successfully and profitably.

"A good big home garden kept planted and rightly tended through the season will produce half of the living besides furnishing an abundance for canning or drying from the surplus.

"When we make our food and grain we will have few or no debts at the store; we will own instead of owe our crops when made, and farm wealth will accumulate in the south instead of farm and crop mortgages."

Call for Democratic Executive Committee Meeting

The McNairy County Democratic Executive Committee is hereby called to convene in Selmer at the courthouse at 1 o'clock p. m., on Monday, March 6, 1916, for the purpose of endorsing candidates or prescribing the method for making nominations for sheriff, trustee, county superintendent of public instruction and assessor and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the committee.

Every member is urgently requested to be present.

CHAS. B. STEADMAN, Chm'n.
ROBT. M. HOUSTON, Sect'y.

For Sale or Exchange.

I have for sale or exchange one high-bred bay stallion, 15.3 eight years old; a good individual and fine breeder, and a combination horse.

ROY L. OZIER, Pinson, Tenn.

"Miss Topsy Turvy" will be presented by the members of the Loyal Glenside class of the Christian church bible church and Altruists class of the Presbyterian Sunday school, at the College Auditorium Friday evening, March 10. In selecting "Miss Topsy Turvy" we feel that this is a play you will appreciate seeing. Our caste is made up of the best amateur players of the town not only of the town but anywhere in the county. The price of admission will be 25c and 15c and the proceeds will be equally divided between the two classes.

Get Your Store Bill Down One Half

Tens of thousands of farmers as well as town and city folks cut down their store bills one-half last year and saved money in spite of generally short crops and reduced wages.

Absolutely millions of dollars were saved and countless families lived better than ever before in the face of the cotton crisis and general business depression.

How were these burdensome store bills cut down? By the real money-saving power of good home gardens, rightly planted and kept planted and tended through the season.

Hastings 1916 Seed Catalogue tells how to cut store bills down; tells about garden and farm seeds of kinds and a quality that cannot be bought from your merchant or druggist. It's full of garden and farm information. It's free if you ask for it. Write for it now. H. G. HASTINGS CO., Atlanta, Ga.—(Adv.)

The man or woman who misses
This February Clearance Sale
at Gish's, has only one advantage; they don't know what they are missing.

But they will know when they have to pay more for worthy merchandise than they have paid in many a long day.

HERES PART OF THE LINE-UP:

Men's \$15.00 Suits at.....\$ 9.82
Men's \$20.00 Suits at.....\$12.45
Men's \$25.00 Suits at.....\$15.00
Men's \$3.00 and \$3.50 Sample Hats at.....\$ 1.45

IN THE WOMEN'S STORE

All Woolens, Silks, Linen and Cotton Dress Goods, Table Linens, Hosiery, Underwear and many other lines, ALL AT A FULL DISCOUNT OF TWENTY PER CENT from old low prices.

Men's Women's, Boys' and Girl's Shoes and all Boys' Clothing will be discounted 20 per cent.

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CHAS. H. GISH
CORINTH, MISS.
Outfitters to Men and Boys

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Youngs Island, S. C.

To get started with you we make you the following offer: Send us \$1.50 for 1,000 Frost Proof Cabbage Plants, grown in the open air and will stand freezing, grown from the Celebrated Seed of Bolgina & Son and Thorbon & Co., and I will send you 1,000 Cabbage Plants additional Free, and you can repeat the order as many times as you like. I will give you special prices on Potato Seed and Potato Plants later. We want the account of close buyers, large and small. We can supply all.

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